



News Release

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Secretary of the Navy selects former Salinas resident to rank of commander

Salinas, Calif. – (Aug. 7, 2009) – The Secretary of the Navy has selected United States Navy Supply Corps Lt. Cmdr. Curtis A. Culwell to rank of Commander.

Culwell has served as executive officer at Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa. or DDSP, since May 2008. His duties include representing the commander in guiding the Public Affairs Office, Equal Employment Opportunity Office, Voluntary Protection Program, and Deployable Depot personnel, and hosting visiting dignitaries.

Culwell was commissioned through the Navy Officer Candidate School, Newport R.I., and completed the Basic Qualifications Course at Navy Supply Corps School, Athens, Ga. in April 1986.

He has a Bachelor of Business Administration from University of California, Berkeley, Calif. School of Business, and a Masters of Business Administration from Touro University, Calif., with a focus on logistics. Additionally, he completed the Joint Professional Military Education Phase I course through the United States Air Force.

Culwell has served in a variety of key leadership positions afloat and ashore. At sea, he served as disbursing and sales officer onboard USS DOWNES (FF 1070), as supply officer aboard the USS WINSTON S. CHURCHILL (DDG 81), and services officer on USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CV 74).

Ashore, Culwell's assignments include material division officer the Naval Postgraduate School Military Operations, Monterey, Calif.; integrated logistics support officer, Newport News, Va.; assistant supply officer, United States Naval Air Station, Iceland; individual augmentation to commander, Joint Task Force 76, Bagram, Afghanistan; and site manager for DDSP Mechanicsburg under the Defense Distribution Center, Defense Logistics Agency command.

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His personal awards include the Joint Services Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, and Navy Commendation Medal with gold star, Navy Achievement Medal with two gold stars, and a number of unit and personal decorations.

Culwell was a resident of Salinas, Calif., for 10 years.